instal new telephone exchanges or to increase the capacity of the present telephone exchanges in the region; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 7008.

(b) These are likely to be provided by September, 94.

(c) and (d) Though no new telephone exchanges are being set up during 1992-93, switching capacities of the existing exchanges in Guwahati region are planned to be increased by 7500 lines as detailed below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Guwahati | — E-10B | — 5000 Lines |
| Dispur | — RLU | — 1300 Lines |
| Noonmati | — RLU | — 200 Lines |
| Adabari | — RLU | — 1000 Lines |
| Total: | | 7500 Lines |

**Installing New Telephone Exchanges in North-East Region**

80. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to instal new telephone exchanges in the North-East region of the country; and

(b) if so, what ar the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current year 1992-93, 7 new telephone exchanges at Noonmati, Sibsagar, Rajgarh, Itakhola, Jaipur, Murajhar and Yazali have been opened and 6 more arc planned at Dibrugarh Gogamukh, Pavoi Charali, Sarabari, Khctri & Amingaon.

**Poor Public Image of MTNL**

81. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel on social audit has gone into the poor public image of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, as reported in the Economic Times of the 22nd October, 1992; and

(b) whether the meetings of the above panel would be held regularly and open to public in order to know the choas in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Sir, as reported in the Economic Times of 22nd October, 1992 the Social Audit Panel for the Ministry of Communications in its 2nd Interim Report has made certain suggestions to improve the telecom services in the country as a whole including Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Delhi and Bombay.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Panncl meetings are open to public.

**Three Digit Number for Ambulance Service in Delhi**

82. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to public demand that the Ambulance Services in Delhi be assigned a three digit number to enable the public to remember it easily; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) A three digit code 102 is working for Ambulance Services in Delhi since long.